

that the milestone has been met or notify the Commission by letter that it has not been met. At its discretion, the Commission may require the submission of additional information (supported by affidavit of a person or persons with knowledge thereof) to demonstrate that the milestone has been met. This showing shall include all information described in § 25.140 (c), (d) and (e). The satellite DARS milestones are as follows, based on the date of authorization:

(1) One year: Complete contracting for construction of first space station or begin space station construction;

(2) Two years: If applied for, complete contracting for construction of second space station or begin second space station construction;

(3) Four years: In orbit operation of at least one space station; and

(4) Six years: Full operation of the satellite system.

(c) Reporting requirements. All licensees of satellite digital audio radio service systems shall, on June 30 of each year, file a report with the International Bureau and the Commission's Laurel, Maryland field office containing the following information:

(1) Status of space station construction and anticipated launch date, including any major problems or delay encountered;

(2) A listing of any non-scheduled space station outages for more than thirty minutes and the cause(s) of such outages; and

(3) Identification of any space station(s) not available for service or otherwise not performing to specifications, the cause(s) of these difficulties, and the date any space station was taken out of service or the malfunction identified.

(d) The license term for each digital audio radio service satellite shall commence when the satellite is launched and put into operation and the term will run for eight years.

[62 FR 11105, Mar. 11, 1997]

§ 25.145 Licensing conditions for the Fixed-Satellite Service in the 20/30 GHz bands.

(a) Except as provided in § 25.210(b), in general all rules contained in this part

apply to Fixed-Satellite Service in the 20/30 GHz bands.

(b) *System License.* Applicants authorized to construct and launch a system of technically identical non-geostationary satellite orbit satellites will be awarded a single "blanket" license covering a specified number of space stations to operate in a specified number of orbital planes.

(c) In addition to providing the information specified in § 25.114, each non-geostationary satellite orbit applicant shall demonstrate the following:

(1) That the proposed system be capable of providing fixed-satellite services to all locations as far north as 70 deg. latitude and as far south as 55 deg. latitude for at least 75% of every 24-hour period; and

(2) That the proposed system is capable of providing fixed-satellite services on a continuous basis throughout the fifty states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, U.S.

(d) *Considerations involving transfer or assignment applications.* (1) "Trafficking" in bare licenses issued pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section is prohibited, except with respect to licenses obtained through a competitive bidding procedure.

(2) The Commission will review a proposed transaction to determine if the circumstances indicate trafficking in licenses whenever applications (except those involving *pro forma* assignment or transfer of control) for consent to assignment of a license, or for transfer of control of a licensee, involve facilities licensed pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section. At its discretion, the Commission may require the submission of an affirmative, factual showing (supported by affidavits of a person or persons with personal knowledge thereof) to demonstrate that no trafficking has occurred.

(3) If a proposed transfer of radio facilities is incidental to a sale of other facilities or merger of interests, any showing requested under paragraph (d)(2) of this section shall include an additional exhibit which:

(i) Discloses complete details as to the sale of facilities or merger of interests;

(ii) Segregates clearly by an itemized accounting, the amount of consideration involved in the sale of facilities or merger of interest; and

(iii) Demonstrates that the amount of consideration assignable to the facilities or business interests involved represents their fair market value at the time of the transaction.

(e) *Prohibition of certain agreements.* No license shall be granted to any applicant for a space station in the fixed-satellite service operating in the 20/30 GHz band if that applicant, or any persons or companies controlling or controlled by the applicant, shall acquire or enjoy any right, for the purpose of handling traffic to or from the United States, its territories or possession, to construct or operate space segment or earth stations, or to interchange traffic, which is denied to any other United States company by reason of any concession, contract, understanding, or working arrangement to which the Licensee or any persons or companies controlling or controlled by the Licensee are parties.

(f) *Implementation milestone schedule.* Each GSO FSS licensee in the 20/30 GHz band will be required to begin construction of its first satellite within one year of grant, to begin construction of the remainder within two years of grant, to launch at least one satellite into each of its assigned orbit locations within five years of grant, and to launch the remainder of its satellites by the date required by the International Telecommunications Union to assure international recognition and protection of those satellites. Each NGSO FSS licensee in the 20/30 GHz band will be required to begin construction of its first two satellites within one year of the unconditional grant of its authorization, and complete construction of those first two satellites within four years of that grant. Construction of the remaining authorized operating satellites in the constellation must begin within three years of the initial authorization, and the entire authorized system must be operational within six years.

(g) *Reporting Requirements.* All licensees in the 20/30 GHz band shall, on June 30 of each year, file a report with the International Bureau and the Commis-

sion's Columbia Operations Center, 9200 Farm House Lane, Columbia, MD 21046 containing the following information:

(1) Status of space station construction and anticipated launch date, including any major problems or delay encountered;

(2) A listing of any non-scheduled space station outages for more than thirty minutes and the cause(s) of such outages; and

(3) Identification of any space station(s) not available for service or otherwise not performing to specifications, the cause(s) of these difficulties, and the date any space station was taken out of service or the malfunction identified.

[62 FR 61456, Nov. 18, 1997]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 62 FR 61456, Nov. 18, 1997, § 25.145 was added. Paragraph (g) contains information collection and record-keeping requirements and will not become effective until approval has been given by the Office of Management and Budget.

PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS

§ 25.150 Receipt of applications.

Applications received by the Commission are given a file number and (domestic only) a unique station identifier for administrative convenience. Neither the assignment of a file number and/or other identifier nor the listing of the application on public notice as received for filing indicates that the application has been found acceptable for filing or precludes the subsequent return or dismissal of the application if it is found to be defective or not in accordance with the Commission's rules.

§ 25.151 Public notice period.

(a) At regular intervals, the Commission will issue public notices listing:

(1) The receipt of applications for new station authorizations;

(2) The receipt of applications for license or registration of receive-only earth stations;

(3) The receipt of applications for major modifications to station authorizations;

(4) The receipt of major amendments to pending applications;